

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KARACH 03917 040505Z

15

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PER-03 /019 W

----- 115844

R 030719Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 621

INFO AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

UNCLAS KARACHI 3917

DEPT. FOR A/SY/MGT AND A/SY/FO FROM RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: LANGUAGE DESIGNATED RSO POSITIONS

REF: STATE 210149

1. WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, A LANGUAGE CAPABILITY FOR RSOS, IN LIGHT OF THEIR CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS, IS A SOUND INVESTMENT. NOTHING SUBSTITUTES FOR THIS CAPABILITY. WHAT CAN BE LOST OR JEOPARDIZED IS OBVIOUS.
2. UNLIKE THE ROMANCE LANGUAGES, WITHIN NEA, A REQUIREMENT FOR ARABIC CARRIES ADDITIONAL ENCUMBEGANCES OF TIME TO LEARN AND TIME TO SERVE AT ESSENTIALLY HARDSHIP POSTS.
3. ON BALANCE, IF MOSCOW AND ATHENS ARE BEING LANGUAGE DESIGNATED, THEN CERTAINLY SAN'A AND JIDDA SHOULD BE SO DESIGNATED.
4. NOTED THAT TUNIS NOT INCLUDED. BOTH INCUMBENT AND PREVIOUS RSO SPEAK FRENCH WHICH IS THE LANGUAGE IN TUNIS. RSO IS UNABLE TO EVEN COMMUNICATE WITH CHIEF LOCAL/GUARD SUPERVISOR WITHOUT LANGUAGE CAPABILITY. MORE IMPORTANT, MANY HOST GOVERNMENT CONTACTS DO NOT, OR WILL NOT, SPEAK ENGLISH. ASSUME RSO AND POST WILL AGREE.

MOORE

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
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